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Eglin AFB, Fla.

June 30, 2000

Nomads fly into record books

By Capt. Jill Whitesell
33D FW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 60th Fighter Squadron “Fightin’ Crows” set a new record Saturday when they tallied up their 362 sorties flown during a three-day super surge.

The surge, which is when a squadron flies large numbers of aircraft multiple times throughout the day, was designed to provide intensified pilot and ground crew training.

“Allowing our pilots and ground crews to fly and launch repeated sorties is essential to maintain our combat edge,” said Lt. Col. Jay Denney, 60th FS commander. “On average, our pilots fly two to three times a week. During the surge, they flew up to three sorties a day.

“Additionally, surges allow our ground crews to ‘turn’ our aircraft quickly and repeatedly, practicing the skills they may be called upon to use during wartime,” he added. “This type of intense training is extremely beneficial because it allows us to hone our combat capabilities on the ground and in the air.”

In June 1999, the 58th Fighter Squadron “Gorillas” set a flying record of 112 sorties flown in one day and 324 over three days. According to documentation of other F-15 units, there was no record of any unit flying more than the “Gorillas.” This is a world record for the 58th FS and F-15. The 27th Fighter Squadron, Langley AFB, Va., beat the Gorillas’ record June 23 with a total sortie count of 327 for three days. The 1st FW held the record for one day until the “Fightin’ Crows” tallied up their 130 sorties flown in one day and 362 for the three days.

Chief Master Sgt. Roger Kato, 60th FS maintenance superintendent, said aside from the training benefits for the maintainers, flying this many sorties is all about pride.

“The maintainers feel proud their aircraft flew so many times. It’s a lot of work to keep the jets in the air and being able to do so is a testament of the

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Photo by Craig McDonnell
Staff Sgt. Robert Pipkin, air traffic controller, implements Eglin’s new air traffic control system Monday.

Eglin air traffic controllers acquire new eyes for skies

By 1st Lt. Craig Goolsby
AAC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Eglin’s 46th Operations Support Squadron became the world’s first users of a new air traffic control system Monday.

Eglin’s implementation of the Defense Airport Surveillance Radar, or DASR, and the Standard Terminal Automation Replacement System, or STARS, is part of a joint Defense Department and Federal Aviation Administration effort to upgrade the nation’s airspace in-

frastructure. Eglin’s air traffic controllers are enthusiastic about using it.

“It is exciting to know that you’re the first in the world to have equipment that ultimately is going to be put in hundreds of FAA and military facilities,” said Maj. Lee Pittman, Airfield Operations flight commander.

Electronic Systems Center at Hanscom AFB, Mass., worked with Raytheon Company to develop the DASR and STARS. The 46th Test

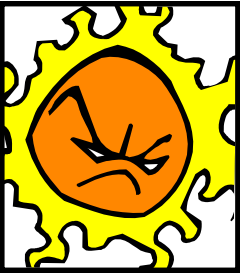
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Eglin INSIDE



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Sports

Eglin Triathlon: More than 100 diehard triathletes showed to make Eglin’s first triathlon a huge success. See page 15.



Information courses go online

By Dr. Tim Mucklow
AF COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY

SCOTT AFB, Ill. — Education enables people to respond to challenges by preparing them for the future. The Air Force has taken initiatives to deliver training and education more quickly, to more people, for fewer dollars. Air Force people now have access to more than 1,000 information technology courses on-line, thanks to the opening of the Air Force Computer Based Training System’s Central Site.

While at work, on temporary duty or at home, military members and civilians can take courses on their computers in such areas as specialized technical skills, basic business applications, software programming and worldwide Web administration. Examples of courses are UNIX, Windows NT, Oracle, Microsoft Office and Netscape Navigator.

The Computer Based Training Initiative 2000 uses the CBT System to help the workforce deal with rapidly changing technology to conduct daily business.

Phase one of the program established the central site, hosted by the Defense Information Systems Agency. It includes an IT course software library, help desk, user registration service and metrics collection capability.

Phase two, now underway, will place courseware and software at base-level network control centers to minimize Internet traffic between users and the central site.

All users can access courses through the central site now. After phase two, on-base users will access courses through their local NCC, using locally-staged courseware and utility software. Off-base users will continue to access courses through the central site, and can either take the courses on line or download them to their PCs. Users must first register from a computer with a “.gov” or “.mil” address, and get a password to connect from any terminal with Internet access.

Progress reports on user metrics will be

maintained at the central site, with local data being passed during off-peak hours. Force planners will use metrics to track proficiency progress and manage their programs.

The Air Force CBT System provides training that meets the knowledge-level requirements for certifying network professionals explained in AF Instruction 33-115, Volume 2, Licensing Network Users and Certifying Network Professionals. Air Education and Training Command is exploring ways to integrate CBT into curricula to get the most value from in-residence training programs.

Proprietary software is needed to take courses in either download or liveplay modes. Users should check with their local workgroup manager for a customized version. The software can also be downloaded from the central site’s “Getting Started Off Base” option, in the Courseware menu.

The CBT System uses SmartForce (formerly CBT Systems, Inc.) commercial off-the-shelf courseware. It offers flexible, adaptable training in the face of growing TDY costs and decreases in funding for in-residence training.

The CBT System is managed by the Air Force Communications Agency’s Training Management Branch at Scott AFB. This branch was created to manage the CBTs and to investigate other training possibilities.

“One of our primary goals ... is to find innovative ways of providing better, faster and cheaper service to the Air Force,” said retired Lt. Gen. William J. Donahue, former commander of the Air Force Communications and Information Center, and Air Force director of Communications and Information. “This is a prime example of how we are doing it.”

AFCA looked at warfighter requirements and developed a solution to provide cost-effective IT training needed for a customer base of more than 500,000 users.

More information is available at the AFCA CBT homepage at <https://afcbt.den.disa.mil/usafcbt> or by contacting the AFCA Training Management Branch, DSN 576-2815 or (618) 256-2815. *(AFPN)*

AIR FORCE SHORTS

Senate passes FY01 defense bill

WASHINGTON — The Senate passed its Fiscal 2001 National Defense Appropriations Bill June 13. The bill funds a 3.7 percent pay raise and other quality of life initiatives.

The bill passed 95-3 and allots \$287.4 billion in spending authority. This is \$3.1 billion above the president’s budget request and \$1.1 billion below the House’s version. The House passed its FY01 defense appropriations bill last month.

- Some of the highlights of the Senate bill include:
- A total of \$160 million to enhance basic allowance for housing and reduce servicemembers’ out-of-pocket housing expenses
 - an increase of \$4.5 billion over current fiscal year spending to fund readiness, training and depot support programs
 - funds totaling \$2.18 billion for 12 C-17 aircraft
 - funds to procure 10 F-22 Raptors
 - an additional \$183 million to buy six F-16 Fighting Falcons
 - an additional \$137 million for the retirees’ pharmacy benefit

The House and Senate will next meet in a joint committee to resolve differences in their defense appropriations bills. *(AFPN)*

Air Force casualty services establishes toll-free number

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPC) - The Air Force Casualty Services Branch has established a toll-free telephone number for surviving family members needing assistance following a retiree’s death.

The number is 1-877-353-6807. It allows family members to report the death of an Air Force retiree and request assistance by connecting them to the nearest Air Force Installation’s Casualty Assistance Representative, according to Air Force Personnel Center officials.

When dialed, the caller is prompted to enter the zip code of the retiree, and the call is then automatically routed to the CAR at the base that services that zip code. If the number at the base is busy, or goes unanswered, the caller is then routed to the Casualty Services Branch (which is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week) for assistance, officials added.

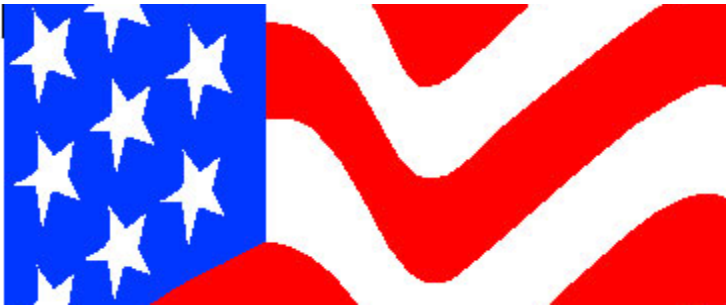
For more information, visit the Web site at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/casualty/>. *(AFPN)*

Air Force accepting physician assistant applications

RANDOLPH AFB, Texas - The Air Force is taking applications for Physician Assistant (Phase I) Training classes for January, April and August 2002.

Only active-duty enlisted Air Force members are eligible for the program. The selection board is scheduled to convene at Randolph March 26, 2001. Completed applications must be sent by military personnel flights and arrive at HQ AFPC/DPAMW, 550 C Street West, Suite 27, Randolph AFB TX 78150-4729 no later than Jan. 26, 2001. Incomplete applications or those received after the cutoff date will be returned and will not meet the selection board, said Air Force Personnel Center officials.

For more information, contact the Military Personnel Flight at 882-8981. *(AFPN)*



Honoring America’s patriots:

Independence Day

By Col. Richard E. Perraut Jr.
96TH AIR BASE WING COMMANDER

In 1776, the Revolutionary War had been underway for over a year. A group of Americans had gathered at the State House in Philadelphia, where the Continental Congress was meeting. It was a typical summer day with a temperature of 72 degrees. But the doors at this meeting were shut. The windows were only opened a crack so that the load, quarrel-ing voices could not be heard, and the meeting room was like an oven. At this meeting they forged a landmark document that eventually 56 of them signed. Our Founding Fathers declared their independence and fought the greatest power on the face of the Earth to earn the blessings of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. They boldly proclaimed that freedom is not a privilege but a right. They were willing to endure all forms of suffering and sacrifice to attain what they considered their birthright.

In the ensuing years, the United States was challenged in different ways and many distant lands around the globe. Throughout our country’s history, our fathers, mothers, sons and daughters have been repeatedly called upon to defend the freedoms that the early patriots fought so hard to win.

Independence Day is the most American of holidays. We spread our picnics across lawns, parks, and beaches. We wave our great flag. We fill the skies with the thunder and lightning of fireworks. And, we rejoice with family and friends in marking the birth of our country 224 years ago.

But in the midst of our joy and celebration, please remember that some members of Team Eglin and our armed forces are deployed around the world in distant lands. They are proudly serving their country and upholding the ideals that this nation was founded on. The sacrifices they and their families endure form the cornerstone of the freedoms we enjoy and are the foundation upon which this nation was built. Please remember them and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

Joann and I wish you and your families a safe and joyous Independence Day. And, may God bless the United States of America...the greatest nation on the face of the Earth!

Commander stresses holiday safety

By Gen. Lester Lyles
AIR FORCE MATERIEL COMMAND COMMANDER

Tuesday we’ll celebrate Independence Day and our nation will turn 224 years old.

From the beginning, our military forces have fought hard to preserve the freedom we all hold dear. Each of you can be proud of your accomplishments in making the United States the land of the free and home of the brave.

As we enter this four-day weekend and all the festivities it brings, I hope each of you enjoys your deserved time off with friends and family. But in doing that let’s not forget about safety.

The summer months bring people out for as many varied activities as the people who attend. A lot of these are physical activities, and vacations send record numbers of drivers on lengthy trips. As a result, more people lose their lives during this time of year than nearly any other.

Water mishaps are the main culprit. Since fiscal 2000 began, five Air Force people have died by drowning. Only two

drowned in all of fiscal 1999.

Water safety must be a top priority. I want to have everyone who goes out to enjoy a summer activity to come back and tell your friends and fellow workers about it.

And while we think mostly about off-duty recreational pursuits, let’s not forget those deployed around the world. Being deployed puts large demands on our people and their families and increases the risk of suicide.

Suicide in the Air Force can be prevented if we’re concerned about each person’s capacity to adjust to these stresses and other unexpected challenges. Talk to your friends, co-workers and subordinates. Be aware of the warning signs and be able and willing to act if needed.

Think about the risks involved and how to make things safer when planning off-duty activities. That will cut down the number of injuries and fatalities.

It’s my goal to make this Independence Day weekend, and the rest of the 101 Critical Days of Summer, successful by working smart, playing smart and having a safe summer with no fatalities.



Holiday Hours

Monday is a Family Day and most non-essential office functions will be closed.		Memorial Lake Food Court	10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
The following facilities are open modified hours.		Frank's Franks	10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Exchange Mall Concessions:			
Mini Mall:		Barber/Beauty	8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Baskin Robbins	10 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Flower Shop	9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Concessions	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Optical	9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Military Clothing	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	GNC	9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Burger King:	8 a.m. to 4 p.m.	Altel	9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Car Care Center:	Closed	Specialty	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Duke Field Shoppette:	Closed	Burger King	10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Main and Satellite Pharmacies	Closed	West Gate Tank 'N Tote	24 Hours
Air Combat Command Gate	Closed	East Gate Tank 'N Tote	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
		East Gate Burger King	10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
		Main and Satellite Parmacies	Closed
The following facilities will be open Tuesday.			
Eglin Main Exchange	9 a.m. to 9 p.m.		
Class Six	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.		

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Camp Pinchot honors 50-year heritage

By Senior Airman Marnee Carlson
EDITOR

It was a historical walk through time for approximately 300 community and military members who attended the 50th anniversary celebration of Camp Pinchot Saturday.

Camp Pinchot, on Garnier's Bayou, has served as the installation commander's residence at Eglin AFB since 1950. Since its establishment, 20 Eglin commanders have called Camp Pinchot home. Today, Maj. Gen. Michael C. Kostelnik, Air Armament Center commander, his wife Barbara, and three other families live there.

Opening his residence to guests for the evening, the general emphasized the importance of history and maintaining it for future generations. The general went on to explain that history is contained in its people.

"The most important aspects of history are preserved within the people who live it," the general said. "It is important, therefore, for those people to help document that experience because the lessons of history may still be relevant for future generations. The evening program at Camp Pinchot was carefully orchestrated to provide our community leadership with the most accurate depiction of contemporary and past life at the camp."

As if browsing through a chapter of American history, attendees toured the area's archaeological sites, the greenhouse complex as

well as some of the houses. There were also boat tours of the vegetation and wildlife of Garnier's Bayou, the remnants of Garnier's turpentine still, and the Choctawhatchee Basin. Participants examined tools from Carroll Butler's Naval Stores Museum; and watched presentations on the evolution of the Camp Pinchot historic district. They also had a chance to talk with residents, such as Sam Hayes, Francis Spence and Cecil Anchors, who had lived in the area prior to it becoming the commander's home.

Throughout the years, Camp Pinchot has changed hands from the Forestry Service to the military, from housing for enlisted to officer personnel, and from houses built on the bayou for the cool breeze and view to a national historic site.

According to AAC historian Voncille Jones, the camp dates back to the early 1900s. In 1908, President Theodore Roosevelt established 11 national forests, one of which was the Choctawhatchee National Forest. In the first 20 years of its existence, the primary purpose of the forest was to establish a method of conservative turpentinizing on government timber.

On June 27, 1940, the U.S. Forest Service ceded the National Forest to the War Department for the establishment of the U.S. Army Air Corps Proving Ground. Camp Pinchot was part of the 384,000 acres involved in the cession.

During the war, there was a critical housing situation and Camp Pinchot served as home for enlisted personnel stationed at Eglin Field. Although it was placed in a "con-



Camp Pinchot is located on Garnier's Bayou. More than 300 community and military members attended the 50th Anniversary celebration of the historic district Saturday.



Courtesy photos

Camp Pinchot was the headquarters for the Choctawhatchee National Forest Service during the early 1900s. Camp Pinchot has served as the installation commander's residence at Eglin AFB since 1950.

demned" status, it was deemed livable.

Among the occupants were Sgt. O. R. Bailey and his wife Laura.

The Baileys resided at Pinchot from 1945 to 1966.

According to Bailey, who was at the event to give people a historical perspective, her husband left the service in 1945 and worked as a forest ranger at the Camp Pinchot Guard Station.

"We were very much at home and happy there," she said. "It is beautiful, and we were especially blessed and fortunate that we got to stay there for so many years."

Bailey said that during their years there they saw many changes, includ-

ing the 1950 renovation of housing for the commanding generals.

In 1950, Maj. Gen. William E. Kepner, commanding general of the Air Proving Ground, rescued Camp Pinchot from its condemned status. However, Maj. Gen. Bryant L. Boatner was the first general to occupy Camp Pinchot.

In October 1998, the Camp Pinchot National Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

However, Jones said it is the Air Force's adaptive reuse and management of the property that enabled Eglin to nominate Camp Pinchot as an outstanding example of American history.

Post office begins mail delivery to dormitories

AAC Public Affairs Report

"We deliver" will take on a new meaning for dormitory residents when they begin receiving mail at their place of residence.

Starting Saturday, residents will no longer travel to the Postal Service Center to pick up their mail. Personnel are being issued new addresses and keys for mailboxes located strategically throughout the dorms. This improvement is the result of an agreement between the 96th Communications Group and the U.S. Postal Service.

"Dormitory mail delivery is just one more way we are improving the quality of life for our airmen," said Col. Richard E. Perraut, 96th Air Base Wing commander. "The Communications

Squadron has diligently worked with different agencies on base and the Postal Service to implement this initiative."

"The time has come for us to deliver on our promise to the residents of our dormitories," said Lt. Col. Evelyn Spence, 96th Communications Squadron commander. "Hopefully, this initiative will add to the comfort and quality of life of our dormitory residents."

According to Spence, this change in service affects not only dormitory residents, but also general delivery for personnel being assigned to Eglin. Personnel on temporary duty here will also receive their mail through general delivery at the United States Post Office located in Building 10 instead of at the Postal Service Center. Dormitory managers will issue mailbox keys and ad-

resses to new residents when they in-process.

"Personnel departing PCS or separating between July 1 and Aug. 31 will continue to receive their mail at the Postal Service Center," Spence stated.

Spence stressed that the single most important thing a dorm resident can do right now is to notify anyone sending mail to them of their new address immediately.

"Since dormitory residents will also receive all parcel deliveries at their residence like off-base customers, it's important to remember they must use the street address along with their building and room number to ensure delivery to the proper place," Spence said.

For further information about dormitory mail delivery, call Duane Hyatt at 882-8094.

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Medical records initiative benefits patients

By 1st Lt. Craig Goolsby

AAC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Eglin’s hospital staff recently launched a customer service initiative that requires hospital workers, not patients, to bear responsibility for picking-up and transporting medical records.

The initiative targets patients, who are at the hospital for acute and same-day appointments. In the past, they who had to wait in long lines to obtain their records before being seen by their primary care managers.

“Hospital personnel will get the records to the clinic so that sick people do not have to go all over the hospital to get them. . . it’s our problem

to get medical records to the clinic and not the patients’,” said Maj. John Griffith, 96th Medical Operations Squadron operations officer.

Additionally, patients will no longer have to carry their records from one appointment to another. This includes referral appointments to specialty clinics within the facility.

The old system of having patients pick-up their records and transport them to appointments has been in place for a long time. Outpatient Medical Records director Roger Quintero, who has worked at the Eglin Regional Hospital since 1975, said the system has been in place for as long as he has been at Eglin.

And, the change is taking place without any additional people. The hospital restructured to create the new system, Quintero said.

Eglin is one of the first bases in the Air Force to implement the new system, but other bases

will probably implement similar systems, Griffith said.

While enhancing customer service, the new initiative will also improve the hospital’s control over records.

“From a medical legal standpoint, there will be a lot more security on records because you have less hands on them,” Quintero said.

According to Griffith, an added benefit is that patients will also receive better care. Since fewer people will have to handle the records, there is less likelihood of the records being lost or mishandled. This means primary care managers will have a more accurate picture of someone’s health and, therefore, be able to provide better care.

“We want to do something more for our patients, and that’s the end result,” Griffith said.

For more information regarding this new initiative, please contact Quintero at 883-8992.

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\$500 REWARD

for information leading to the recovery of stolen government property. On Oct. 21 and Nov. 8, 1999, five Dell personal computers, four Gateway laptops, 16-4.3 GB hard drives and 14 sets of speakers were stolen from Building 1363. If you have any information, call AFOSI at 882-2152.

VOLUNTEER

make a difference

The following volunteer positions are available:

m96th Air Base Wing Protocol: For three hours a week, an individual will assist the 96th ABW protocol officer in preparing for military ceremonies and events.

mJackson Guard: For six hours a week, individuals will patrol Santa Rosa and Okaloosa Island beaches to document sea turtle nesting and hatching activity.

mAirman’s Attic: For four to eight hours a week, individuals will sort donations and work with customers.

mFamily Support Center: For four to 12 hours aweek, individuals will provide receptionist service.

For more information on volunteering, call Gwen Quinn at 882-9060.

NOMADS

From Page 1

outstanding maintenance practices of the squadron,” Kato said.

“The 60th FS could not have accomplished this without the total support of the 33d FW and Team Eglin,” Denney said. “Some critical aspects were airspace scheduling, air traffic control, base fuels, supply and, of course, the outstanding Nomad effort from all seven squadrons. In addition, the 96th Air Base Wing ensured the Oasis dining facility was open and the Nomad Clinic also was staffed and ready.”

Flying took place from dawn to dusk where the 320-person, 24 primary assigned aircraft squadron flew as many as 20 jets per launch, up to nine times each day. The aircraft continuously flowed through the hot pits where they received fuel, then to the flightline where maintainers performed inspections and restarted the engines, and finally to the end of the runway for a last look before take-off.

With this style of “quick turning” jets, maintenance crews didn’t have much time to catch their breath or escape from the hot sun. But according to maintenance officers, that didn’t dampen morale.

“Everyone was walking around with smiles. It was unbelievable,” said Capt. Nathan Myers, maintenance supervisor for the 60th FS. “Jets are going to break, but it’s the attitude of the people fixing them that made the difference.”

Denney added that cool-down tents, water and “surge burgers” were located close to the flightline to ensure the sustenance of their crews.

Flying 362 sorties doesn’t just happen overnight. There was a lot of planning and coordination involving many wing and base organizations to make it happen.

“We set a goal for this last year, planned, and then executed,” Myers concluded. “That’s what a great team does.”

EYES from Page 1

Squadron here developmentally tested the systems last year. Now the Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center is conducting an operational test of the systems. It is an unusual operational test, however, since Eglin’s air traffic controllers and 96th Communications Squadron are actually using and maintaining the system for real air traffic, while AFOTEC continues to test it.

The new air traffic control system has many advantages over the old system. Tom Robillard, the Defense Department’s National Airspace System Program Manager discussed the overall advantages of the system.

“The new equipment will result in a much more reliable, expandable, workforce-friendly system of safely separating air traffic throughout the United States,” Robillard said.

The system allows controllers to see farther and lower to the ground, Pittman said.

Further more the new STARS system has the capability to integrate inputs from multiple radars. The old radar-scopes took inputs from a single radar. According to air traffic control journeyman Staff Sgt. Matthew Conley, the old scopes had blind spots. However, with multiple radars operating, Conley said it is “almost impossible” to develop blind spots with the new system.

The new STARS system displays its images on large computer monitors. The displays are visible at nearly office level lighting, which provides the controllers with a better work environment.

Finally, the towers in the area also benefit from the new

systems.

“Eglin, Duke and Hurlburt towers have a radar feed, which enables them to maintain surveillance of the in-close airport traffic areas,” Pittman said.

Eglin was selected to test the system for several reasons.

“We’re a joint use airfield and we control a significant number of civilian aircraft,” Pittman said. “You can test all aspects of it to make sure it’s suitable for military needs, in warning and restricted areas, and for civilian traffic.”

According to Pittman, Eglin’s air traffic is divided into about 60 percent military and 40 percent civilian. The high volume of traffic that Eglin handles, which is typically second or third highest in the Air Force, made it a good choice for implementation of the system.

According to Conley, Eglin’s controllers can handle up to 20 airplanes at a time.

“This is the place to work,” Conley said, pointing at the Radar Approach Control facility. “If you can make it in there, you can make it anywhere.”

Air traffic controllers here spent much time preparing for the DASR and STARS arrival.

“Our controllers have been training on the new systems since January, most of it in their off-duty time, and they’ve been anxious to start actively controlling with it,” said Chief Master Sgt. Dana Bunch, Eglin radar control facility’s chief controller.

Other Air Force bases will begin getting the new systems over the next couple years, Pittman said. *(Electronic Systems Center Public Affairs contributed to this article)*



VOTE: Your Voice Counts

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PROTECT YOURSELF

Motorcycle helmets are required on Department of Defense installations. Military members must wear helmets on and off base.



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Movies

These movies are playing in the following locations. Show times are 7 p.m., unless otherwise listed. Movies are \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children. All Sunday movies are \$1. R-rated movie tickets cannot be purchased by children younger than 17. All movies are subject to cancellation without notice.

Eglin Theater
882-1066

Tonight-Gladiator

(108 minutes, R, intense graphic combat) Russell Crowe and Joaquin Phoenix. When a cruel new emperor of Rome, Commodos, takes power, he strips the rank from Maximus, one of the favored generals of his predecessor and father. Rellegated to fighting in the gladiator arenas to the death lest he challenge Commodus for the emperorsip, can this former leader of men survive long enough to break his chains and wreak vengeance on his mortal enemy.

Saturday-Gladiator
Sunday-Screwed

(90 minutes, PG-13, crude sex-related humor, nudity, language, violence and brief drug content) Norm MacDonald and Dave Chappelle. Willard, the abused chauffeur to Miss Crock, has devised a foolproof plan for revenge. Along with his hot-headed best friend Rusty, he kidnaps the nasty wom-an’s prized pooch and holds it for ransom. But when the dog escapes, Miss Crock mistakenly comes to the conclusion

that it’s her chauffeur who has been kidnapped.

July 7-TBA

Hurlburt Field
884-7648

Tonight-

Where The Heart Is

(120 minutes, PG-13, tense thematic material, language and sexual content) Natalie Portman and Stockard Channing. Novalee and her “Wal-Mart Baby” become instant celebrities when she gives birth on the floor of the store. Novalee finally becomes part of an unconventional, makeshift family comprised of her wonderfully eccentric new friends.

Saturday-Battlefield Earth

(117 minutes, PG-13, intense sci-fi action) John Travolta and Barry Pepper. It’s the year 3000 and there are only about 35,000 human beings left on the planet. The rest were wiped out by a deadly gas which was spread a thousand years earlier by the fierce Psychlos who conquered Earth to mine its mineral resources. Finally, after 10 centuries of domination, Jonnie “Good-boy” Tyler from Colorado takes on the dreaded Psychlos.

Sunday - Held Up

(91 minutes, PG-13, language, violence and sensuality) Jamie Fox and Nia Long. Mike is having a bad day. His girl friend breaks up with hime and he finds himself stuck in a hold-up.

July 7 - Gladiator

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Eglin Helping Agencies

Cholesterol Management

Individuals who are confused about “good” and “bad” cholesterol can attend the Cholesterol Management class at the HAWC from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Participants learn how simple dietary and lifestyle changes can reduce the risk for heart disease and stroke. Call 883-8621 for dates and appointments.

Employment Focus

This class is July 10 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Information on the local job market is provided to assist individuals with their search for jobs in the local area. Volunteer opportunities here will also be discussed. For reservations and locations, call 882-9060.

Child Anger Management Class

This class is July 10 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Its for children ages 6 to 11 and shows them how to deal with anger in a positive way without yelling, crying or hitting. Call 882-9060 for reservations and location.

Sponsor Training

The class is July 10 from 2 to 3 p.m. The class is mandatory for sponsors who have not attended sponsor training in the past year. For location and reservations, call 882-9060.

Smooth Move

This class is from 9 a.m. to noon July 11. Finance, Legal, TMO and other organizations provide information and will address PCS concerns. Call 882-9060 for reservations and a class location.

Breastfeeding Class

The Eglin hospital offers a breastfeeding class July 11 from 10 a.m. to noon. Class topics include pumping and storage of breastmilk, frequency and length of feedings, equipment and issues surrounding returning to work. For more information, call 883-8651.

Bundles for Singles

This class is July 11 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Expectant active-duty Air Force members assigned to Eglin, Hurlburt Field and Duke Field will receive information on budgeting for baby, obtaining child support and child and dependent care programs. Expectant mothers will also receive gifts for the baby. Call 882-9060 for location.

Dental Assistant Training Course

This course is July 31 at the Hurlburt Dental Clinic. All potential students must fill out an application and attend a mandatory course overview and expectations briefing July 17 at 8 a.m. Applicant interviews follow the briefing. For more information, call 881-5174.

96th Services

Charter fishing boats

Post'l Point offers a charter fishing boat. Trips are 12 hours and cost \$45 per person or \$850 to charter the whole boat. For more information, call 882-6581.

Child Care Provider classes

Family Child Care Provider classes begin Monday. The classes are free and are conducted every Monday and Wednesday from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Child Development Center. Applications may be picked up at the CDC or FCC office. For information, call 882-2994.

Summer bash

The Eglin Beach Center Summer Bash party is Tuesday. The band “Ivory and Steel” is performing during the afternoon, and the center is conducting giveaways throughout the day. For more information, call 244-5378.

Glass bottom boat cruise

Outdoor Recreation offers a glass bottom boat cruise Tuesday from 7:30-9:30 p.m. The cost is \$15 for adults and \$10 for children 3 and older.

Skills Development Center

The wood skills center staff at the Skills Development Center can assist with any wood-working project. All woodworkers must attend a safety briefing to use the equipment. Safety briefings are every Saturday. Call 882-5467 for more information.

On Base

Model autograph signing

The Eglin Base Exchange hosts an autograph signing with model/actress Symba Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Proceeds from the signing go towards the World War II Veterans Memorial. For more information, call 651-2512

Proper refuse disposal

All military housing and mobile home park residents are reminded that the collection of refuse, recyclables and yard waste is provided once a week for each type of material. Recycling is highly encouraged and mandatory. Hazardous materials such as tires, batteries and paint should not be disposed of in household garbage containers. Hazardous waste may be disposed of Thursdays from 1 to 1:30 p.m. by contacting the Okaloosa County Solid Waste Office at 651-7394 or 651-7395. For more information, call 882-9501 ext. 451.

EESC scholarship

The Eglin Enlisted Spouses Club offers two \$250 scholarships to military spouses. All civilian spouses of active-duty Air Force members are eligible if they are permanently stationed at Eglin and the applicant is pursuing a technical, associate or undergraduate degree. Applications can be picked up at the Eglin Family Support Center. All applications must be postmarked by July 16. For more information, call Brenda Koenig-Kramer at 689-3935.



Photo by Craig McDonnell

Sharp troop

Staff Sgt. Amber Houghton , 46th Maintenance Squadron Noncommissioned Officers in charge of custody accounts, helps one of her customers with their account. Houghton was recently named a Sharp Award winner by the Chiefs’ Group.

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Commissary wants “Best” for its customers

By Lois Walsh
AAC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Starting Saturday, saving at the commissary just gets easier. That’s the day customers can walk in and find a variety of popular products marked with “Best Value Item” signs.

The Defense Commissary Agency is making the job of bargain hunting easier for military shoppers, and the agency is putting a massive effort into making sure their customers get the best prices on products ranging from snacks to paper goods.

“Our customers have earned their benefit, and we’re going to make sure they are getting the best prices through this program,” said DeCA Director, Maj. Gen. Robert J. Courter Jr.

The program responds to customer demand for more price savings. The commissary system is making an effort to encourage single shoppers, military families and retirees on fixed incomes to take greater advantage of their benefit.

According to store director Barbara Sannino products are being compared to like products that are found in full-service grocery stores outside the gate. Buyers at DeCA identify the best values since this is a world-wide program. And although the pricing does not carry a money-back guarantee, store personnel are working to ensure their prices are the best for a type, size and quality of product.

“If you normally buy a 30-count size of garbage bags, the one marked with a BVI shelf sign at the commissary will be the lowest price in any store locally for that same exact item in either a comparable national brand or store brand,” Saninno said.

DeCA has identified popular products and sizes to kick off the program, but shoppers

can expect to see changes in the products marked as BVIs every time they shop. Frozen and chill products will be added this summer, according to DeCA officials. And today’s BVI might not be tomorrow’s. Product selection and variety will change rapidly to drive commissary prices down even further.

The Best Value Item program is not another commissary promotion. As the Best Value Item program evolves, customers will also get more help in spotting BVIs.

“If a customer finds a lower price, we will ask where it was spotted in the local area and when,” Sannino said. “When the price is validated, we will pull the sign designating the item as a best value.”

“We want every customer to understand that products marked as ‘Best Value Items’ are, indeed, the best prices. Period.”

— Maj. Gen. Robert J. Courter Jr.
Defense Commissary Agency Director

ating the item as a best value.”

Another way customers can help is by being a mystery shopper, a new initiative to let management know how customer service is faring. All categories of shoppers from active duty to retiree dependents are eligible and can pick up an application at the commissary or send an e-mail to hqcsk3@east.deca.mil.

“We think we have a great store, but we can always improve, and suggestions from customers reinforce to our staff where customer service could be fine tuned.” Excitement about the changes in commissary services are everywhere.

“Make no mistake,” Courter said, “this is an ongoing program that has the commitment of the entire agency behind it. We want every customer to understand that products marked as ‘Best Value Items’ are, indeed, the best prices. Period.”

“We think we have a great store, but we can always improve, and suggestions from customers reinforce to our staff where customer service could be fine tuned.” Excitement about the changes in commissary services are everywhere.

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Summer can pose heat stress dangers

by Capt. Andy Hodgkins
BIOENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER

The beautiful scenery and warm climate in the Eglin area make this area one of the top vacation spots in the country, despite some of the local hazards, such as rip tides, lightning, hurricanes and wayward golf balls.

But perhaps the most significant hazard that everyone here faces this time of year is one that few people think about — heat stress. With the summer temperatures already soaring in the upper 90s, the possibility of suffering from heat stress increases.

The normal body temperature is approximately 98.6 degrees Fahrenheit, and individual body temperatures often vary between 97 and 99 degrees Fahrenheit, said Capt. Tiffany Morgan, 96th Aerospace Medicine Squadron.

“Anything that causes body temperature to rise above

normal is a source of heat stress,” Morgan said.

“Since the body generates internal heat during physical activity, hard work and strenuous exercise increase the internal heat load.”

Some people are more susceptible to heat stress than others. Infants and children up to 4 years old, adults 65 years old and over, persons who are overweight and those who are ill or taking certain medications are at increased risk, Morgan explained.

During this time of year, it is important to be aware of warning signs of heat-related illness, Morgan said. These symptoms include light-headedness, mild nausea, confusion, sleepiness and profuse sweating.

Morgan encourages everyone

one to remember the following tips for preventing heat stress:

- Schedule outdoor activities in the morning or evening.
- For those who are accustomed to working or exercising indoors but need to work outdoors, start slowly. Pick up the pace gradually and limit the time working or exercising outdoors.

When working in outdoor areas, monitor the condition of co-workers and take regular breaks in cool or shady areas whenever possible.

Drink plenty of cool fluids (water or flavored fluid replacements) before, during and after heat exposure to prevent dehydration. Drink small amounts of liquids at

frequent intervals. Do not wait until feeling thirsty before drinking fluids. Ensure infants and children drink adequate amounts of liquids.

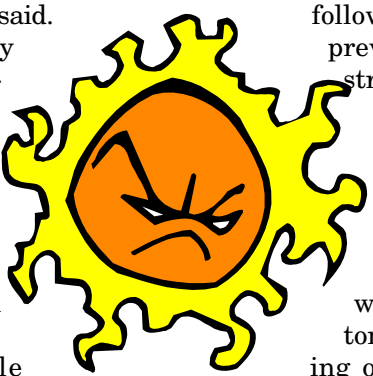
Avoid heavy meals and drinks with alcohol or caffeine. Digesting a huge meal raises the body’s internal heat load, and alcohol and caffeine will dehydrate.

Wear lightweight, loose-fitting clothing and sunscreen when outdoors.

Those who are taking any type of medication should consult their physicians to find out whether the medication can affect their body’s response to the heat.

When working in outdoor areas, monitor the condition of co-workers and take regular breaks in cool or shady areas whenever possible.

Humidity and low wind speed can increase the level of heat stress. The severity of these conditions is measured by the wet-bulb globe temperature (WBGT) index.



Chapel

Catholic Mass

*Saturday-Chapel 2, 5 p.m.
*Sunday-Chapel 1, 7:45 a.m.
*Sunday-Chapel 2, 11:15 a.m.
*Sunday-Chapel 1, 6 p.m.
*Daily-Chapel 1, 11:30 a.m.

Islamic Services

*Jumuah Salaat-Chapel 1, Friday, 1 p.m.
*Quran Hadiths-Chapel 1, Saturday, 6 p.m.
*Fajar Salaat-Chapel 1, Saturday, Sunday, 5:30 a.m.
*Zuhr Salaat-Chapel 1, Monday - Thursday, 1:10 p.m.
*Asr Salaat-Chapel 1, Monday - Friday, 4 p.m.

Jewish Services

*Sabbath Worship-Chapel 1, Friday, 7:30 p.m. followed by Oneg Shabbat

Protestant Worship

*Traditional-Chapel 2, Sunday, 8 a.m.
*Gospel-Chapel 1, Sunday, 9:15 a.m.
*Traditional-Chapel 2, Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

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Photos by Joe Piccorossi

Top: **Marilyn Hoggatt, a Pensacola Beach native, puts her bike into high gear during the bicycling portion of Eglin’s inaugural triathlon Saturday.**



Right: **Two runners sweat it out at the triathlon’s 2.5 mile run.**

Eglin’s first triathlon huge success

By Micaela Leonard
96TH SERVICES SQUADRON

History was made as Eglin hosted its inaugural triathlon Saturday. Mike Montgomery took first place with a time of 38:57. Christine Slater was the women’s first place winner with a time of 45:41. The hot, sticky weather didn’t seem to bother the 107 die-hard triathletes, ranging from age 10 to 68. Their day began at Eglin’s East Gate Pool with a 200-yard swim; followed by an 8-mile bike ride and a 2.5-mile run to the finish line.

As each weary runner crossed the finish line, cheers of fellow competitors, volunteers and a supportive crowd greeted them. For many, it was their first attempt at doing a triathlon; however, the structure of the course seemed adequate for all competitors regardless of age or experience. Gulf Breeze resident, Tom Gibble and his 10 year-old son Tommy were among the first-time participants. “I liked the fact that the swim portion was done in the pool,” Gibble said. “My son and I did this together and I think this made it very safe.”

Veterans of the sport also agreed that the event was a success. “I thought it was very well run,” said third place finisher Scott Hamilton. “The swim was very well organized and so were the transitions from event to event. “I’ve done about a dozen of these over the last seven years and the fitness center staff did a great job,” Hamilton added. The triathletes were not the only ones who were satisfied with the experience. The fitness center staff was pleased that all of their hard work and effort resulted in a good

showing. “Considering this was our first year, this was an excellent turnout,” said fitness center director Tony Jadin. “Triathlons are a very popular activity right now and it’s another way to challenge yourself. Next year, maybe we’ll even have over 200 competitors.” The second place winner was Clayton Tillery with a time of 41:26 followed by Hamilton at 41:29. The second place winner in the women’s category was Laura Burke at 49:41, followed by Kammi Tibbs at 50:54.

Sports Shorts

Snorkel trip

Outdoor Recreation offers a snorkel trip July 16. Participants will snorkel off of the boat the “Mongoose” for 2 and a half hours, then return to Post’l Point. The cost is \$25. Participants should bring a towel, sunscreen, a change of clothes and a snack. For more information, call 882-6581.

Diving classes

The Eglin Dive Club offers the following classes:
○ Open Water Scuba - Monday July 17 and 24. The cost is \$200.
○ Advanced Open Water - July 8 and includes advanced diving techniques. The cost is \$185.
For more information, call Anna Schmitz at 837-0955.



Photo by Mike Fleck

Take me home

Hi! My name is Katy. I am a very active and playful 2-year-old kitty. I love playing and having fun. You can adopt me, as well as other potential pets, at the Pet Welfare Center located on Range Road. The number is 678-5066.